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10/780,008

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Brig Barnum Elliott

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VERIZON

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EXAMINER

HANNON, CHRISTIAN A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2618

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/12/2011

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/780,008 | Applicant(s) ELLIOTT, BRIG BARNUM | |
| | Examiner CHRISTIAN HANNON | Art Unit 2618 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18,36-38 and 45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18,36-38 and 45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/20/2010 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1-18, 36-38 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The amended claims and new claims recite analogous limitations such as "human user devices" or "said human-user device operated and controlled by a human user" and "un-digitized analog signals." The Examiner can find no support in the specification describing these limitations; accordingly the claims are rejected for failing the written description requirement. The dependent claims are rejected as they incorporate the deficiencies of the independent

Art Unit: 2618

claims via dependency. It is noted by the Examiner that this rejection may be overcome by persuasively arguing why such limitations are supported by the specification, such arguments including specific references to paragraphs and/or drawings in the Applicant's specification. While the claims have been rejected primarily under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, the Examiner finds the following prior art rejections applicable to the non-written-description offending portion of the amended claims. For this reason the art rejections are provided herein below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

1. Claims 1–5, 8-9, 11-18 and 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Millar (US 6,831,901).

Regarding claims 1, 17 and 18, Millar discloses a patch panel system comprising an interface unit, or Hub item 130 of figure 3, that includes a plurality of ports, or ports connecting 120-1 120-n to Hub item 130 of figure 3, configured to connect to a plurality of user devices, or plurality of BTS item 120-n of figure 3, the interface unit being configured to receive one or more analog signals output from a user devices of the plurality of user devices via a port of the plurality of ports, or analog RF signals originating in BTS items of figure 3 going to Hub item 130 (see column 9, lines 18-24), generate a packet from the one or more analog signals, Hub 130, packetizes data sent

Art Unit: 2618

from BTS units (see column 7, lines 20-23) and transmit the packet, or transmit packet from input of Hub item 130 to output of Hub item 130, and a radio unit, or Radio access node items 150 of figure 3, configured to receive the packet, or receive packets sent from Hub item 130 to RAN item 150 via Line 342 of figure 3, convert the packet to a depacketized radio signal representing only extracted payload bits, or depacketizing/reconstructing the received bits for use at the RAN, where the payload is the data originated at the BTS meant for connection to the RAN, but was packetized merely for transmission through the interface unit/Hub, and transmit the depacketized radio signal representing only extracted payload bits over a radio channel, or propagating the RF (i.e. depacketized signal, that had been packetized for transmission/propagation through the Hub) via the antenna of RAN items 150 to mobile transceiver devices (see figure 1). In addition Millar discloses that a means for binding between a port and a radio channel is based on addresses associated with the port and radio channel (see column 11, lines 51-53).

Regarding claim 2, Millar discloses claim 1, wherein the one or more analog signals are associated with a constant bit rate service, or quality assured service, as disclosed that overhead bits can include parity information, effectively providing a upper level on delays, therefore ensuring quality of at least a constant rate (see column 4, lines 30-35).

Regarding claim 3, Millar discloses claim 3, wherein the interface unit includes a plurality of interface units each connected to a plurality of user devices and the radio unit includes a plurality of radio units configured to be communicative over a plurality of

Art Unit: 2618

types of radio channels, Millar discloses a plurality of interfaces delineated in pairs of HDC/HUC which interface with the discrete, respective, user device serving different radio channels (see figure 3).

Regarding claim 4, Millar discloses claim 1, wherein the ports include a plurality of different types of ports configured to connect to a plurality of different types of user devices, Millar discloses a down and an up conversion port, associated with different user devices, or different BTS' (see figure 3).

Regarding claim 5, Millar discloses claim 1, wherein when generating a packet from the one or more analog signals, the interface unit is configured to digitize the one or more analog signals to obtain bit representations corresponding to the one or more analog signals, use the bit representations for a payload portion of the packet, and add header or framing information to the packet that identifies at least one of the radio unit and the radio channel (see column 4, lines 8-40).

Regarding claim 8, Millar teaches claim 1, wherein the radio signal includes one of amplitude modulated waveform and a frequency modulated waveform (see column 8, lines 48-61).

Regarding claim 9, Millar teaches claim 1, wherein the radio unit is further configured to depacketized the packet to obtain depacketized information and wherein when converting the packet to a radio signal, the radio unit is configured to convert the depacketized information to a radio signal (column 9, lines 33-39).

Regarding claim 11, Millar teaches claim 1, wherein a binding exists between the port and the radio channel (see column 7, lines 30-35; column 9, lines 18-24).

Regarding claim 12, Millar teaches claim 11, further comprising a management unit configured to control the binding between the port and the radio channel (see column 2, lines 45-51).

Regarding claim 13, Millar teaches claim 1, wherein the radio unit includes a plurality of radio units with a plurality of associated radio channels, where a plurality of bindings exist between the ports of the interface unit and the radio channels associated with the radio units (see column 5, lines 63-67, column 8, lines 34-36, column 9, lines 23-25).

Regarding claim 14, Millar teaches claim 13, further comprising a management unit, or control software, configured to control the binding between the ports of the interface unit and the radio channels associated with the radio units (see column 2, lines 45-51).

Regarding claim 15, Millar teaches claim 14, wherein the management unit uses first addresses associated with the ports and second addresses associated with the radio channels to control the bindings between the ports and the radio channels, at least one of the first and second addresses being used to transmit the packet from the interface unit to the radio unit (see column 11, lines 49-56).

Regarding claim 16, Millar teaches claim 1, wherein the interface unit is further configured to receive signaling information, recognize the signaling information and include the signaling information with the packet (see column 2, lines 45-51).

Regarding claim 36, Millar discloses a patch panel system comprising a first interface unit that includes a plurality of first ports configured to connect to a plurality of

Art Unit: 2618

first user devices, the first interface unit being configured to receive one or more first analog signals output from a first user device of the plurality of first user devices via first port of the plurality of first ports (see operation of Hub item 130, as referenced to rejection of claims 1, 17 and 18), generate a first packet from the one or more first analog signals (see column 7, lines 20-23), transmit the first packet, a first radio unit configured to receive the first packet, convert the first packet to a first depacketized radio signal representing only extracted first payload bits and transmit the first depacketized radio signal representing only extracted first payload bits over a first radio channel, or the first RAN item 150-1 of figure 3 (column 9, lines 33-39), a second radio unit configured to receive one or more second depacketized radio signals representing only extracted second payload bits, generate a second packet from the one or more second depacketized radio signals representing only extracted second payload bits and transmit the second packet and a second interface unit that includes a plurality of second ports configured to connect to a plurality of second user devices, the second interface unit being configured to receive the second packet convert the second packet to a second analog signal and output the second analog signal to a second user device of the plurality of second user devices via a second port of the plurality of second ports, or the operation of the claimed "second radio unit" is analogous to the flow of figures 1 and 3 disclosed by Millar when viewed in a right to left fashion, namely "unpacketized" bits are received at the RAN items, second ports, where they are packetized for transmission across the Hub, and then depacketized to the corresponding BTS on the left side of the data flow (see column 7, lines 15-30 and column 9, lines 18-39).

Regarding claim 37, Millar discloses that the first and second interface unit includes the same interface unit, see Hub item 130 of figure 3.

Regarding claim 38, Millar discloses claim 36, wherein the first and second radio units include a same radio unit see RAN item 150-1 of figure 3.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Millar in view of provisional application # 60/371,994 filed 4/12/2202 of which patent 6,934,077 issued and herein serves as reference to the subject matter taught.

Regarding claim 6, Millar discloses claim 5, however fails to teach wherein when adding header or framing information to the packet, the interface unit is configured to add IP header information to the packet. The '077 patent discloses adding header or framing information to the packet, the interface unit is configured to add IP header information to the packet (see column 6, lines 6-18; '077 patent). Therefore it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Millar with those of the '077 patent in order to provide for a known packetizing scheme for transfer of data.

Regarding claim 7, Millar discloses claim 5, however fails to teach wherein when adding header or framing information the interface unit is configured to add Ethernet framing information to packet. The '077 patent discloses adding header or framing information the interface unit is configured to add Ethernet framing information to packet. Therefore it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Millar with those of the '077 patent in order to provide for a known packetizing scheme for transfer of data.

4. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Millar.

Regarding claim 10, Millar teaches claim 1, however fails to teach wherein the radio unit is further configured to encrypt bits associated with the packet. Millar teaches desire of successfully transferring bits, of which encryption is a widely known means. Therefore it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Millar with those of one of the vast array of known encryption schemes to further Millar's goals.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHRISTIAN HANNON whose telephone number is (571)272-7385. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri. 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed Urban can be reached on (571) 272-7899. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2618

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Christian A Hannon/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2618

May 6, 2011